

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 EB-08 SIL-01 LAB-04
OES-07 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /062 R

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ICCUSA:AGMACFARLANE
DOE:SGOLDMAN
EUR/CE:RCASAGRANDE
DOL:DSCHLICK (SUBS)
OES/APT/SEP:DCRAMER
-----087359 130248Z /61

P R 121948Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, ELAB, UR, GW, FR, CZ, PL

SUBJECT: VISIT OF COAL MINE SAFETY GROUP TO USSR

REFS: A) MOSCOW 10100; B) DUSSELDORF 719

1. MCATEER GROUP DISCUSSED IN REF A IS TRAVELLING ON
PRIVATE BASIS AND IS NOT REPEAT NOT AN OFFICIAL USG
DELEGATION. MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION,
(MSHA), DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HAS CONFIRMED TO DEPARTMENT
THAT GROUP DOES NOT HAVE OFFICIAL STATUS AND RECEIVES NO
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FUNDING FROM LABOR DEPARTMENT. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR HAS
MADE NO REPRESENTATIONS TO HOST GOVERNMENTS ON BEHALF
OF GROUP, ALTHOUGH IT HAS PROVIDED INFORMATIONAL ASSISTANCE
DIRECTLY TO GROUP ITSELF.

2. MCATEER AND GALLOWAY ARE ASSOCIATED WITH CENTER FOR
LAW AND SOCIAL POLICY, WASHINGTON, DC, WHICH WAS DESCRIBED

TO DEPTOFF BY GALLOWAY AS FORD FOUNDATION - FUNDED PRIVATE LAW FIRM SPECIALIZING IN MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY LITIGATION. COX IS A WORKING COAL MINER AND UMW ORGANIZER. TRIO HAS RECEIVED GERMAN MARSHALL FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR MINE SAFETY STUDIES IN UK, FRANCE, FRG AND IF POSSIBLE POLAND, CSSR AND USSR AS PER REF B.

3. ACCORDING TO MSHA OFFICIAL DON SCHLICK, WHO WAS LEADER OF MESA TASK FORCE MENTIONED PARA 3 REF B, MCATEER AND GALLOWAY PARTICIPATED IN ACTIVITIES OF THAT TASK FORCE ONLY AS PRIVATE MEMBERS, WITH EXPENSES COVERED BY MARSHALL FUND, NOT USG.

4. ITINERARY FOR GROUP NOT YET COMPLETELY FIXED. PLANS FOR STAYS IN UK MAY 14-23 AND FRANCE JUNE 5-12, HOWEVER, ARE FIRM. VISIT TO FRG TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 13-25. TIMING ON VISITS ELSEWHERE DEPENDS ON DATES OF VISIT TO USSR, WHICH IS YET TO BE CONFIRMED BY SOVIETS. GROUP HOPES FOR SOVIET VISA ISSUANCE BY TIME OF PARIS STOP AND COULD PICK UP SOVIET VISAS AT SOVIET CONSULATE IN PARIS.

5. IN COMPLETING SOVIET VISA APPLICATIONS, GROUP INDICATED TIME OF VISIT JUNE 1 - JUNE 30. GALLOWAY HAS ASKED THAT SOVIETS BE ADVISED THAT ENTIRE MONTH OF JUNE WAS INDICATED TO GIVE SOVIETS MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY IN MAKING

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ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT. GROUP DOES NOT EXPECT TO STAY IN USSR FOR MORE THAN ONE WEEK--PREFERABLY IN SECOND HALF OF JUNE--WITH PRECISE DATES TO BE DETERMINED BY THE SOVIETS.

6. EMBASSY SHOULD OF COURSE MAKE STATUS OF MCATEER GROUP CLEAR TO SOVIETS. GROUP AND MARSHALL FUND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE EMBASSY CAN PROVIDE CONSISTENT WITH USUAL PRACTICES IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH PRIVATE ACTIVITIES. DOE SEES NO CONFLICT PER SE WITH ITS PROJECTED PROGRAMS, BUT WE TRUST SOVIETS UNDERSTAND THAT EVENTS ARE SEPARATE AND CURRENT GROUP DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR OFFICIAL COOPERATIVE DISCUSSION OR PROJECT.

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